⇒ National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune have been identified as the nodal agencies for laboratory investigation of any suspected/probable case.

⇒ Facilities for treatment of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in isolation have been arranged in the Central Government Hospitals.

Two child norm

2511. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and various other States have adopted 'the' two child norm;

(b) if so, the States which have, so far, adopted this norm;

(c) to what extent, it has been successful;

(d) whether the two States—Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, have been able to achieve the population control;

(e) if so, the steps being considered by Government to urge the States to check the population growth;

(f) how many States have agreed;

(g) whether any norm has been set up for this; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and various other States like Rajasthan, Haryana, Orissa, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh have enacted legislation, in relation to Panchayats and Municipalities, for disqualifying persons from contesting elections or holding elective office, if they have more than two children.

(c) There is no documentation to prove success, or lack of it, due to this policy in these States.

(d) The National Population Policy 2000 aims at attainment of Total Fertility Rate of 2.1 by 2010. The States of Rajasthan and M.P. are adopting suitable strategies for achievement of the same.

(e) The States have been advised to formulate their State Population Policies and set up State Population Commission. The Government has constituted a National Commission on Population and a Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh to promote integrated efforts for population stabilisation. An Empowered Action Group has been constituted for the eight demographically weaker States of Orissa, Rajasthan, M.P., Chhattisgarh, U.P., Uttaranchal, Bihar and Jharkhand, to focus on the FW program in these States. Hon. Prime Minister reviewed the FW program with the Chief Ministers of U.P., M.P., Rajasthan and Bihar, on 16.1.2003.

(f) State Population Commissions have been constituted in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, A and N Islands and Lakshadweep. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, M.P., U.P. and Gujarat have adopted their State Population Policies. The States of Orissa and Jammu and Kashmir have also prepared draft Population Policies.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise, in view of (g) above.

AIDS epidemic in Asia

2512. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report that AIDS is spreading faster in Asia;

(b) if so, whether the experts have warned about spread of AIDS epidemic in Asia;